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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/629,802	07/30/2003	Akira Nagashima	03500.015658.2	7925

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EXAMINER

SHAH, MANISH S

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2853

DATE MAILED: 07/11/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/629,802	<b>Applicant(s)</b> NAGASHIMA ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> Manish S. Shah	<b>Art Unit</b> 2853	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 June 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 65-67, 78-80, 86 and 87 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 65-67, 78-80, 86 and 87 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

1. Claims 65-67, 78-80 & 86-87 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Auslander et al. (# US 6793723) in view of Higuma et al (# US 613512).

Auslander et al. discloses an inkjet recording apparatus including an ink jet recording unit and inkjet recording cartridge (see Examples; Epson Stylus Color 760; column: 23, line: 1-15), which includes an ink composition that moderate the typically occurring phenomenon of quenching which comprises a first colorant comprising at least one fluorescent dye, a second colorant comprising water-soluble polymeric dye of effective molecular configuration to inhibit quenching of fluorescence of the first colorant and an aqueous liquid vehicle comprising water and a water-soluble vehicle in sufficient amounts (see Abstract and column: 5, lines 23-41). The reference further teaches that the fluorescent dye may be based on the chromophoric systems such as anionic coumarins, cationic coumarins, anionic naphthalimide dyes, pyranine, rhodamines, bispyrromethane boron complexes and pyronines (column: 14, lines 36-65). The ink carrier contains at least 65 percent water, fluorescence stabilizer, surfactants and glycol

ethers (column: 15 line 26-column: 16 line 34). The examples disclose the amount of the fluorescent dye is in Applicant claimed the amount and that the fluorescent dye includes Acid Red 52. The reference fails to specifically the first and second organic compounds which are incompatible with each other. However the reference broadly discloses the components of the ink composition. Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to use the components discloses by Applicant in the composition of Auslander because the components taught by the Applicant are well known components.

Auslander et al. fails to disclose that the ink holding member is composed of fiber flocculate and the fiber flocculate is aligned in an ink discharging direction of the ink container.

Higuma et al. teaches that to improve the ink flowability, and reducing the amount of unusable amount of the ink within the ink container, the ink-holding member is composed of fiber flocculate (fiber strands) and the fiber flocculate is aligned in an ink discharging direction of the ink container (element: 40a, 40b; figure: 9., element: 4a, 4b, figure: 8, element: 4, figure: 11).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the recording unit and the ink cartridge of Auslander et al. by the aforementioned teaching of Higuma et al. in order to improve the ink flowability, and reducing the amount of unusable amount of the ink within the ink container.

***Conclusion***

2. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

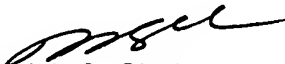
A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Manish S. Shah whose telephone number is (571) 272-2152. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00am-4:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Stephen D. Meier can be reached on (571) 272-2149. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2853

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

  
Manish S. Shah  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2853

MSS

6/28/06